



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Forschungsreise in den zentralen Tien-schan und Dsungarischen Ala-tau im Sommer 1902. Von Dr. Max Friederichsen. Mit 86 Original-Abbildungen auf 52 Tafeln und 2 Original-Karten. Hamburg. L. Friederichsen & Co., 1904. (Mitteilungen der geographischen Gesellschaft in Hamburg. Band XX.)

The author records the results of his work as geographer and geologist of the expedition, sent by the University of Tomsk, into the mountains of Russian Central Asia under the guidance of Professor Saposhnikow. They relate particularly to the region south of Issyk-kul and around the Khan-Tengri in the Central Tien-Shan, and the Dzungarian Ala-tau. The geological aspect of the country is very uniform, the rocks being exclusively granites, gneisses, schists, and palæozoic formations. The topography closely corresponds to the geological conditions; three parallel ridges which emanate from the Khan-Tengri to the west are a succession of so many anticlines and synclines, and Issyk-kul itself appears to be embedded in a large synclinal valley. In Dzungaria, two lines of geological disturbance intersect each other, and produce curved ridges whose concave slopes look towards the north-west. The drainage, in the Khan-Tengri region, follows the longitudinal valleys, and is finally gathered in the transverse valley of the Sary-Dshas River, which opens an outlet to the south by cutting through all the three ranges. In Dzungaria the arrangement of the ridges produces a general northwest direction of the water-courses toward Lake Balkash. In no place do the mountains explored appear to have been submerged since the close of the Carboniferous (Permo-carboniferous) period. The results of this continued denudation are shown in the widespread Han-Hai sandstones and conglomerates which accompany the old formations almost everywhere; in a wide belt of rock waste, wider than in any other Alpine landscape between the forest and pasture belt of the lower, and the firn and glacier belt of the higher parts of the mountains, and in a very striking example of perfect peneplanation in the broad longitudinal Sary-Dshas valley, so striking that the Kirghiz designate them by the special name of "Syrt." They are wide steppe plains, perfectly level, dissected by the Sary-Dshas and its tributaries, in whose valleys the strata can be seen standing on edge, and further exploration will probably establish them as the most extensive area of undoubted sub-aerial denudation. Glaciers are not numerous nor large; the Semenow (pronounced Semyonoff) glacier near Khan Tengri being the only one worthy of mention. Traces of a larger glaciation appear everywhere, but even they do not reach the amount of the first glaciation of the Alps. Issyk-kul, too, is far from being comparable to the Alpine lakes; for instance, to the Lake of Geneva, as has often been presumed from small-scale maps. It is a typical steppe lake, with flat and barren shores, and the mountains are so far away that only in remote geological times, when it may have stood much higher than at present, can it have extended to their base. Its shrinking has very probably been accelerated through the cutting off of the Tshu River, which formerly flowed through it, but whose upper course has filled up the bay where it entered the lake with its own deposits, and thus cut itself off from the lake and pursued a shorter route to reach the lower course through the gap of Buam in the north, the former outlet of the lake.

The book is a valuable addition to our information concerning a little-known country, and it is to be wished that the author may have another chance of visiting it in order to complete his investigations. These had often to be cut short on account of the general plan of the expedition, which was sent out first of all for botanical interests. The pictures are excellent and very well selected, and the two large-scale maps, on which not a single name mentioned in the text is missing, contain many

valuable contributions to the cartography of the region. Four appendices contain notes on the maps and tables of barometric and trigonometric measurements by the author, and petrographical and palæontological notes on his specimens by Petersen and Schellwien.

M. K. G.

Excursions and Lessons in Home Geography. By Charles A. McMurry. pp. xl + 152. New York, The Macmillan Company, 1904.

This little volume of suggestions as to the way of conducting work in home geography is one of a series for teachers, dealing with the different subjects of the elementary school. It has been preceded by a book on the method of teaching geography in the elementary schools, and will soon be followed by one or more books on the teaching of certain selected topics in geography in the upper grammar grades.

The book includes suggestions as to the observational study of local scenery in different parts of the country, of industrial geography as represented in the processes to be seen in shops and factories, of certain commercial topics, of the features of agriculture and dairying, and of government.

The author is a most successful teacher, and has tested his ideas by long practice. Yet the suggestions do not contribute to the cause of better geography teaching, for the reason that too much is included which even a liberal interpretation of "the study of the earth in its relation to man" will not allow us to call geography. A topic, to be geographical, must present clearly the geographical or earth-background to the human activities and operations which can be studied in a given region. The technical details of industries and the processes of city government are hardly geography, unless the reasons for the establishment of the given industry at a given place are clearly brought out, and the reasons, from the earth standpoint, for certain forms of government are given as a basis for details.

The book is well illustrated, and it offers many suggestions to teachers whether they agree with the geography or not. Often, however, these suggestions are of a kind that cannot be easily adapted to other places, and the work, as a whole, will not fit the ordinary school course of study in home geography.

The author deserves great credit for his insistence upon the teaching of geography from real things, and the advantage of excursions with young pupils. All phases of geography teaching need to be illustrated in the field and, of all phases, home geography suffers the most from being based on words, and not on things. So many teachers distrust their own powers in the conduct of excursions that it is good for them to see how easily excursions can be conducted and to have this shown, not by a theorizer, but by one who has done all that he outlines as possible for beginners.

R. E. D.

Physiography—An Introduction to the Study of Nature. By T. H. Huxley, revised and rewritten by R. A. Gregory. pp. xl + 423. The Macmillan Company, New York, 1904.

A new edition of Huxley's classic *Physiography* is a welcome edition to the available literature for schools and general reading. There are few books on elementary physiography that even approach the original edition of this volume in smoothness and clearness, and surely no book that an enthusiast reads with more pleasure. The author of the revised edition acknowledges that the task of revision has been a hard one, but it has been well done. The general order has been retained, the text has been changed but very little, and the result is a book of more general adaptability than the original.